Operation Blackboard Scheme in Gujarat

673. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of Operation Blackboard Scheme in Gujarat;

(b) whether any shortcomings have been noticed in implementation of the scheme in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to remove these shortcomings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) to (d) Funds were released for procurement of Teaching Learning Equipment (TLE) for all the eligible 12,393 primary schools in Gujarat. In all, 2374 posts of primary teachers were sanctioned to convert single teacher primary schools to dual teacher schools.

Under the expanded Operation Blackboard Scheme funds have been released for procurement of Teaching Learning Equipment for 16279 upper primary schools in the State.

A total amount of Rs. 9682.98 lakhs has so far been released to Govt. of Gujarat for the implementation of Operation Blackboard Scheme, out of which State Govt. has utilised Rs. 9654.50 lakhs.

There has been some delay in the utilisation of funds released for TLE. However, the State has now utilised 99.70% of the funds released.

Land for new campus of SPA

674. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi purchased a plot of 20 acres of land near JNU campus from DDA in 1988, for establishment of the new campus within a period of two years;

(b) whether the project has not been executed even after a lapse of 13 years, resulting in idle investment of Rs. 1.99 crore till the end of March, 2000;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what are Government's immediate plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (d) As per the information furnished by the School of Planning & Archietecture (SPA), New Delhi, they acquired a piece of land in 1988 allotted by DDA which was under Air Funnel of Airport. As there was no scope to carry out any construction activity there, in 1991, another piece of land was allotted by the DDA to the School. The School took the possession of the land in 1992 and since then are pursuing with DDA to create infrastructural facilities such as roads, drains, water, electricity etc. In the absence of proper infrastructural facilities the land is still lying under developed. The School has now identified the land and is in the process of constructing boundary wall with the help of CPWD. The School has also been pursuing with the DDA for Zonal Plan so that further action for design of the campus may be taken up.

Separate electrical connections for staff quarters in JNU

675. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a substantial loss of Rs. 1.63 crores was incurred during 1997-2000 in Jawaharlal Nehru University, by not providing separate electric connections for staff quarters in JNU campus;

(b) whether separate electric connections for staff quarters in JNU residential campus have since been provided;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA